

CLAIMS

Sub
A1

5

1. A method for forwarding a telephone call, in which the caller receives a "no answer" or "busy" signal, comprising the steps of:
- routing the incoming telephone call to a dedicated server;
 - identifying the number being dialed;
 - associating an email address with said dialed number; and
 - forwarding the voice message as an email message to said email address.

Sub
B10

15

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said step of forwarding comprises the steps of:
- digitizing the voice message into a wave file; and
 - attaching said wave file to the email message.
3. A method according to claim 1, and further comprising the steps of:
- storing said voice message in a voice box; and
 - the recipient retrieving said voice message by telephone.

Sub
A2

20

4. A method for forwarding a telephone call in email message format to a recipient, the method comprising the steps of:
- the caller dialing a dedicated telephone number;
 - identifying the telephone number of the caller;
 - the caller entering the telephone number of the recipient of the telephone call;
 - associating an email address with the telephone number of the recipient; and

forwarding the voice message as an email message to said email address.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein said step of forwarding comprises the steps of:
- 5 digitizing the voice message into a wave file; and
attaching said wave file to the email message.
6. A method according to claim 4, and further comprising the steps of:
storing said voice message in a voice box; and
the recipient retrieving said voice message by telephone.
- 10 7. A method according to claim 4, and further comprising the step of:
verifying whether the caller's telephone number matches the
registered telephone number of the caller.
8. A method according to claim 7, and if the identified telephone number does
not match the registered telephone number of the caller, further comprising
15 the step of:
only forwarding the voice message if a correct password and the
registered telephone number associated with the caller is verified.
9. A method according to claim 4, and only if the recipient telephone number is
listed as being associated with a registered member, allowing the forwarding
of the message.
- 20 10. A method for forwarding a facsimile message in email message format to a
recipient, the method comprising the steps of:
the caller dialing a dedicated facsimile number;

identifying the telephone number of the caller;
the caller entering the facsimile number of the recipient of the
facsimile;
associating an email address with the facsimile number of the
recipient; and
forwarding the facsimile message in email message format to said
email address.

5

11. A method according to claim 10, wherein said step of forwarding comprises
the steps of:

10

converting the facsimile message into a TIF file; and
attaching said TIF file to the email message.

12. A method according to claim 10, and further comprising the step of:

verifying whether the caller's telephone number matches the
registered telephone number of the caller.

13. A method according to claim 12, and if the identified telephone number does
not match the registered telephone number of the caller, further comprising
the step of:

only forwarding the facsimile message if a correct password and the
registered telephone number associated with the caller is verified.

14. A method according to claim 10, and only forwarding the facsimile message
if the recipient facsimile number is a telephone number listed as being
associated with a registered member.